



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Freeland Village Hall in the Newell Room at 19:30 on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

The councillor chairing this meeting was Mary Ann Canning

**Members Present:**

Cllr P Foster (PF), Cllr A Bird (AB), Cllr M Canning (MAC) Cllr R Crocker (RC), Cllr S Ainsley (SA), Cllr P Holt (PH) and Cllr B Phillips (WP), Clerk Fay Friend (FF), District Cllr L Arciszewska. and Cllr L Walker. Additionally 1 members of the public was in attendance.

**1. To receive apologies for absence** – Apologies have been received from Cllr V Baker (VB) and District Cllr A Al-Yousuf County

**2. To receive Declaration of Interest in agenda items** – Cllr P Holt declared an interest in Planning application 24/00576/HHD

**3. To approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024**– It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were signed as a true record.

**4. Public Participation session**

There was no public participation

**5. To discuss and agree any actions for urgent business**

There was a brief conversation about Thames Water sewage overflow issues – Lidia outlined the Grampian Condition imposed by WODC on North Field development, Long Hanborough, whereby development cannot commence until Thames Water sewage capacity improvements have been implemented and signed off by WODC.

**6. Update on progress from previous minutes.**

There were no matters to discuss

**7. Planning**

**(a) Applications received**

**24/00576/HHD, Harlyn, 145 Wroslyn Road Freeland**

Demolition of existing garage and erection of single –storey rear extension

The planning group had difficulty downloading the current version of this application. **Action** - MAC to clarify.

**(b) Applications Approved – None**

**(c) Applications refused -**

**24/00002/HHD, 87 Wroslyn Road Freeland**

Construction of part single-storey and part two-storey extension to dwelling, involving demolition of existing single-storey garage, with associated alterations to existing dwelling

**(d) Applications Awaiting Decision**

**24/00215/S73, Chalfont 3 Wroslyn Road - House**

Variation of conditions 2 and 3 of Planning Permission 22/02862/HHD to allow design and material changes.

**24/00216/S73, Chalfont 3 Wroslyn Road – garage and store**

Variation of condition 2 of Planning Permission 23/00124/HHD to allow design and material changes,

**24/00248/HHD, 125 Broadmarsh Lane Freeland Witney**

Single storey extension to front and side of dwelling,

**24/00292/HHD, 181 Wroslyn Road Freeland Witney**

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of rear extension to create additional living space over two floors.

**22/02377/FUL Conversion of Methodist Church to form a single dwelling.**

**Appeal Hearing –** Additional Information submitted by Appellant in the form of a Viability Report.

**Representations to made by 14 March 2024.**

It was **RESOLVED** to write in support of the response document submitted by Freeland Community Benefit Society and to reinforce our objection which has already been submitted. **Action:** MAC to contact Mike Gilbert on whether Rule 6 party is applicable to written representation hearings.

**(e) Major Projects**

**Botley West Solar Farm, Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project - Adequacy of Consultation response to WODC**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and submit the report as previously circulated, modifying bus times to form footnote. **Action:** MAC to email report to Fay for submission.

**8. To receive updates from District and County Councillors.**

Lidia- WODC budget has been set and is going up by 5%. Planning to appoint specialists such as ecologists, cost would be offset by their role in obtaining grant funding. One of largest current costs is waste and recycling – fuel, wages.

Nature recovery plan has been approved. Now aiming to extend beyond WODC owned land to that within towns and villages. Will be providing guidance to Town and Parish Councils as well as voluntary groups and private individuals. Meeting on Thursday with Wild Oxfordshire to support this aim.

WODC have adopted a plan to become carbon neutral by 2030. Decarbonisation of buildings and waste fleet a priority, but large waste vehicles in rural areas are problematic. Have provided funding for heat pumps/ solar panels for Windrush pool and Chipping Norton Lido.

Liam- potholes have been a major problem this winter in terms of cost of claims, the sheer number of new potholes and poor quality repairs. Urged people to keep reporting them on 'Fix my Street' Budget is going up by 4.99% for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. Most of expenditure allocated to Oxford, rather than rest of county.

No date yet for Pigeon House Lane entrance improvements or for signage upgrades on the A4095. Our 20mph consultation should be soon – North Leigh being carried out at present.

**9. To discuss and approve financial matters.**

(a) To approve invoices for payment. - It was **RESOLVED** to pay the account presented, proposed by PF, seconded by MAC and all in favour.

The following invoices are requested to be approved for payment:

BACS Ref Number	To whom paid	Details	Amount (£)
BACS 105	Fay Friend	Salary	
BACS 106	HMRC	NI payment	
BACS 107	Freeland Village Hall	hall hire	£12.50
BACS 108	water plus	water bill	£25.02
BACS 109	VH loan	Loan	£11,827.81
BACS 110	OALC	subscription	£351.36
BACS 111	WODC	Litter bins	£1,305.72
		Total:	13,522.41

(b) To approve bank reconciliation. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation. This was signed by WP

(c) To review the financial reports. Reports were circulated and presented.

(d) To review the financial review – it was **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt.

(e) To discuss clerk hours and annual pay review. – this will be taken to the next meeting. Action: MAC, VB and clerk to arrange meeting on this.

(f) To discuss the quote for moving to new bin company – it was **RESOLVED** to approve we go with Shield, purchasing new bins from them and returning ones on loan from WODC.

**10. Sustainability Working Group update-** thermal imaging survey showed most homes were well insulated. The next step is to get feedback from residents as to whether any improvements have been carried out as a result of the survey.

The Community Action Plan for Zero Carbon Energy report has just been received, so will be taken forward at their next monthly meeting, reporting back to us at April meeting. **Action** – PF to circulate report.

**11. Village Design Statement update**

Freeland Gate was leafleted as a trial run, focussing on their particular concerns - questionnaires have just been returned via Mark O'Callaghan. A whole village questionnaire has been circulated to councillors for their feedback prior to delivering to all residents. It was agreed to distribute questionnaires alongside flyers for APM after Easter. **Action:** councillors to send any thoughts to RC and PF. RC and PF to get a quote and print ready for the next council meeting.

**12. Parish Election and Nominations**

Nomination packs are being collected by PH for any resident that would like to stand in the Local Parish Elections on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2024. Nominations to be returned by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**13. Annual Parish Meeting – arrangements/ flyers**

Catering to be looked at by PF. The flyer need to be ready for the next meeting. 750 fliers in total for all houses and noticeboards. It was **RESOLVED** to agree up to £1000 expenditure for the fliers and the VDS questionnaire prior to April meeting.

**14. PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ITEMS:**

(a) Play Areas/Playing Field/Play Equipment Book- the sand for the sand pit needs ordering. **Action:** MAC to speak to Tim Webster.

(b) Play Area Maintenance Tasks Update- the list has been circulated **Action:** RC to review list with Arthur Treherne and make a plan for completion.

(c) Village Maintenance and Highway Matters: Freeland Gates and Sign. Freeland hall oak tree has been carefully trimmed by Boward tree surgeons. It was **RESOLVED** to accept quote from Freeland Fencing to repair the fence and gate damage around the playing field. A quote has also been obtained for a 'Freeland' sign for the new gates on A4095, further quotes to be obtained. Also the white gates are already dirty. Top rail of one of gates – paint already peeling. **Action:** Clerk to get a quote for cleaning the gates A4095, MAC to email Estelle management about paintwork.

(d) Gov email address and domain name – it was **RESOLVED** to move across to a .GOV domain. **Action:** Clerk to look into this further

(e) D day event- It was **RESOLVED** not to host anything for this event

**15. To receive reports from Councillors representing the Council on outside meetings**

**Nothing to report**

**16. To note the date of next meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in the Newell Room. Meeting Closed at 21:27**